

Application No. 09/975,479
Amendment dated January 25, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 4, 2005

Docket No. 1232-4778

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 are independent. All of the pending claims stand rejected in the Office action.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4, 9, 10-13, 18 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,862,594 to Saulpaugh et al. ("Saulpaugh") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,426,946 to Sengodan ("Sengodan").

The Office Action asserts that Saulpaugh teaches the communication terminal of claim 1 except for the "determining means," and cites Sengodan for this lacking element in Saulpaugh. The Office Action specifically cites a portion of Saulpaugh (i.e., col. 2, lines 55-58) as disclosing the look-up service.

Applicants note that the cited portion of Saulpaugh describes that "[s]ervices are found and resolved in a Jini system by a look-up service. A look-up service maps interfaces indicating the functionality provided by a service to sets of objects that implement the service." Applicants further note that a subsequent portion of Saulpaugh describes that the look-up service may store not only pointers to these services on the network, but also may store the code (e.g., printer driver and/or interface) for accessing these services. See, for example, col. 2, line 62 - col. 3, line 2 of Saulpaugh.

One of the aspects of the present invention as featured in claim 1, for example, recites a communication terminal connected to both a service provider and a look-up service that registers

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service objects of the service provider. The communication terminal of claim 1 searches for a look-up service, and if the search is successful, acquires a desired service object directly from the look-up service. In particular, the communication terminal of claim 1 is further configured to issue a transmission request directly to the service provider if a search for a look-up service for a desired service is unsuccessful, thereby obtaining the service object directly from the service provider. Other independent claims (i.e., claims 9, 10, 18 and 19) recite similar features to claim 1 as discussed herein.

As Applicants understand it, there is simply nothing in Saulpaugh that teaches the present invention as discussed above. For example, there is no communication terminal in Saulpaugh connected to both a service provider and a look-up service as specifically recited in the pending claims.

Sengodan, disclosing a second level multicasting toward a wider scope than a first level multicasting if the first level multicasting does not locate the resource, does not complement the lacking element in Saulpaugh as discussed above. For example, Sengodan fails to show or suggest that the second level multicasting is directed to a specific service provider requesting a desired service object as required by the present invention.

Accordingly, each of independent claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 is believed neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of Saulpaugh and Sengodan, either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 9, 10, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants have not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that the independent claims from which they respectively depend are

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in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicants however reserve the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicants believe that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

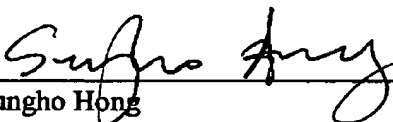
No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-4778). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: January 25, 2006

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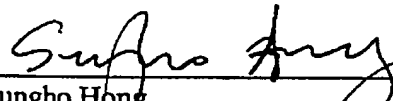
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